

Beyond the Digital Bubble

**Keeping Archives Human in a
Digital World**



Raymond Hernandez & Shakira Croes
The National Archives of Aruba



Table of Contents

1. Introduction

2. Digitization

3. Our way

4. Conclusion



1

Introduction

The top of the slide features a decorative header. On the left, there's a palette with red and blue paint. To the right, there are several paint splashes in yellow, orange, and blue. The background of the slide is a light green gradient with some faint, larger paint splashes on the right side.

Introduction

- The National Archives of Aruba works to preserve and share history.
- Digital archives make information easy to access, but we risk losing personal connections.
- If we rely only on digital tools, we might miss important stories from people.



Together with the participants we will explore

- The benefits of Digitization
- Challenges of Digital Archives & Accessibility
- The Digital Bubble, what is this?
- Lost Information and human connection



2

Digitization

What are we doing at the digital level?

- Digitization

Colección Audiovisual



What are we doing at the digital level?

Showing results 41-80 of 22444 total.

Sorted by: [Date Uplo](#)
More options: [Publication Date](#) [Views](#)

Page 2

Metadata Full-text

Showing results 1-40 of 667 total.

Page 1

Sorted by: [Date Uplo](#)
More options: [Publication Date](#) [Views](#)

1 Gerald Golden a wordo nombro embahador di buena boluntad di Aruba - 1984, Image # 2

2 Gerald Golden a wordo nombro embahador di buena boluntad di Aruba - 1984, Image # 1

3 Resultado di torneo di Volleyball interescolar - IDEFRE - 17 di februari 1984, Image # 6

4 Resultado di torneo di Volleyball interescolar - IDEFRE - 17 di februari 1984, Image # 7

5 Sr. Lincoln Kokaram cerca Gezaghebber Pedro Bisli - 16 di februari 1984, Image # 2

6 Resultado di torneo di Volleyball interescolar - IDEFRE - 17 di februari 1984, Image # 5

7 Celebracion Status Aparte 1986 (Part 3) (1986)

8 Celebracion Status Aparte 1986 (Part 2)

9 Celebracion Status Aparte 1986 (Part 4) (1986)

10 File shots (8-roll shots) na aeropuerto. [1989] (Raw footage)

11 Celebracion 45 aña di A.V.P. (Part 1) (1987)

12 Musica Arubano (solamente audio) / File shots (8-roll shots) di e echomachine di dr. Ho-Kang-You

13 Celebracion Himno y Bandera 1994

14 Entrevista cu Betico Croes y Parada di MEP 1985

15 Proyecto Hyatt Hotel Aruba. / Seminario geestelijke gehandicpen. (1987)

16 Celebracion di Himno y Bandera 1985

17 Island tour cu inversionistanon Japonese pa e proyecto Hyatt hotel. (1987)

18 Clere di LAGO - 1983, Cas di torto

What are we doing at the digital level?

- Handwritten Text Recognition



The screenshot displays the Transkribus web interface for handwritten text recognition. At the top, the 'Transkribus' logo is overlaid on a sample of handwritten text. Below this, the title 'Handwritten Text Recognition' is centered. The main workspace is divided into three sections: on the left, a full-page image of a handwritten document; in the center, a series of seven horizontal lines, each preceded by four equals signs (====), representing the segmented lines of text; and on the right, a text box containing the machine-transcribed Dutch text. A small 'ara' logo is visible in the bottom-left corner of the interface.

Transkribus

Handwritten Text Recognition

====
====
====
====
====
====
====

R2
Aan Den Edle Gest: Heer
Den Heer L. Boye
Commandeur over het Eiland
Aruba etc. etc.
Geeft met schuldige eerbied te kennen
Jan Hendk Godfr Eman als Geassocieert met
Juan Maymo bij de Inwoonderen handel
„drijvende op ‘t Eiland Aruba.
Dat de Gollet Comest, door ‘t verwisselen
van de flag: Hollandsche zee Pamplieren
is Requireerende.
Ende aangezien meer gemelde Juan Maymo
als Schipper aan Boord voorsz Gollet is navi,
„geerende en door ziekte genoodzaakt geweest: hem
ter bevordering van zyne Gezondheyd, Sich
aan de vaste overkust op te houden, en zo spoe,
„dig doenlyk: alhier zal Begeeven.
zo is ‘t om welker Reeden den Requestant
tot Udd Gest: is keerende.
Verzoekende Pamplieren van dit Eiland waarbij
voorsz: Gollet voor deze Rys naar de kust moogen
Navigeeren; ten Eynde de Capn & Hollandsche
Eigendommen aldaar by zig hebbende over te
brengen. ‘t welke doende etca
Aruba P.mo April 1816: Jan Hendk Godfr Eman
Accordeert voorstaande Verzoek voor deze Rys

ara

What are we doing at the digital level?

- Online Collection



What are we doing at the digital level?

- Online Collection



What are we doing at the digital level?

- Connecting the Dots 3.0

Connecting the Dots:



Family tree Helder-Mancini



Garibaldi Helder, his family and ancestors



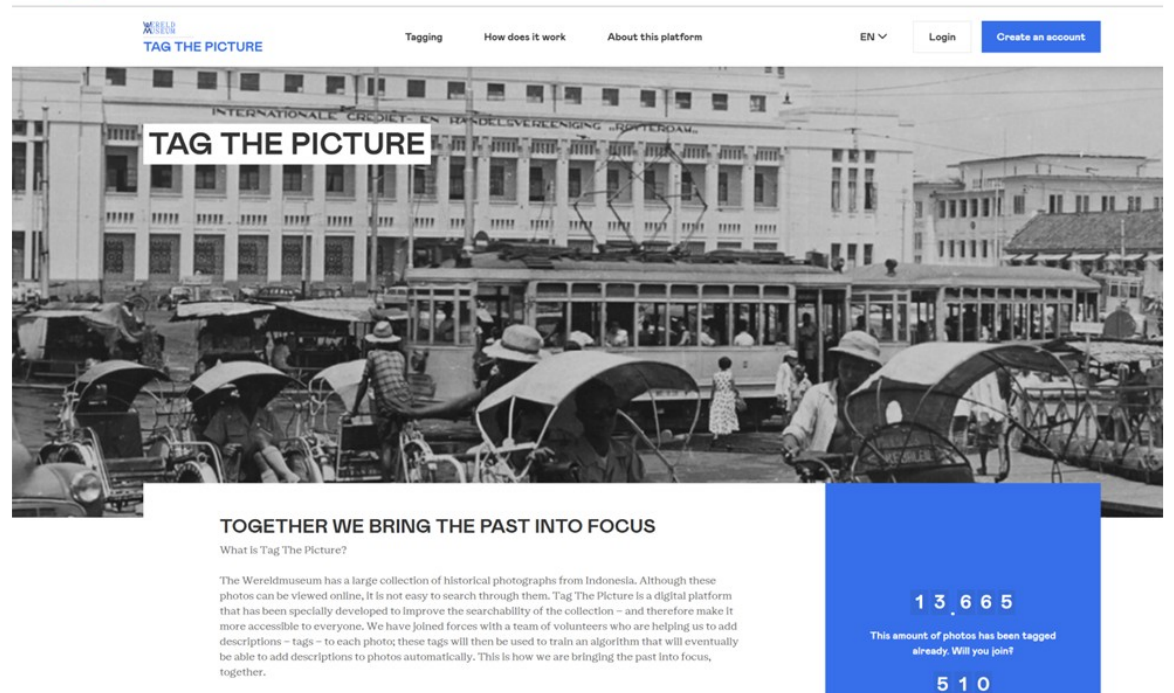

What are we doing at the digital level?

- Upcoming: Whisper – from audio to text
(PAPIAMENTO)



What are we doing at the digital level?

- Upcoming: Tag the Picture



WERELDMUSEUM
TAG THE PICTURE

Tagging How does it work About this platform

EN Login Create an account

INTERNATIONALE CREDIT EN HANDELSVEREENIGING ROTTERDAM

TAG THE PICTURE

TOGETHER WE BRING THE PAST INTO FOCUS

What is Tag The Picture?

The Wereldmuseum has a large collection of historical photographs from Indonesia. Although these photos can be viewed online, it is not easy to search through them. Tag The Picture is a digital platform that has been specially developed to improve the searchability of the collection – and therefore make it more accessible to everyone. We have joined forces with a team of volunteers who are helping us to add descriptions – tags – to each photo; these tags will then be used to train an algorithm that will eventually be able to add descriptions to photos automatically. This is how we are bringing the past into focus, together.

13.665

This amount of photos has been tagged already. Will you join?

510

What are we doing at the digital level?

- Upcoming: Dutch Caribbean Digital Heritage Platform



What are we doing at the digital level?

- Upcoming: Wikipedia Aruba



Wikimedian In Residence Aruba

56 followers • 0 following



Message

Add friend

Search



What are we doing at the digital level?

- Upcoming: Wikipedia Aruba



The "Wikipedia on Aruba" project, launched by Wikimedia Nederland, features a Wikimedian in Residence (WiR) who acts as a project coordinator and point of contact. The Wikimedian is responsible for providing training, and fostering community participation. The project aims to make Aruban and Dutch Caribbean culture and heritage more accessible on Wikimedia platforms.

The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of thick, expressive brushstrokes in shades of green, yellow, orange, red, and purple. Several translucent, multi-colored bubbles are scattered across the scene, some overlapping the text. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and visual complexity.

But.....

We have to be
aware of the
Digital Bubble!

Living in a "digital bubble": refers to being exposed primarily to information and perspectives that align with your existing beliefs and interests, often through online platforms and algorithms. This can lead to a limited understanding of diverse viewpoints and a reinforced sense of one's own opinions."



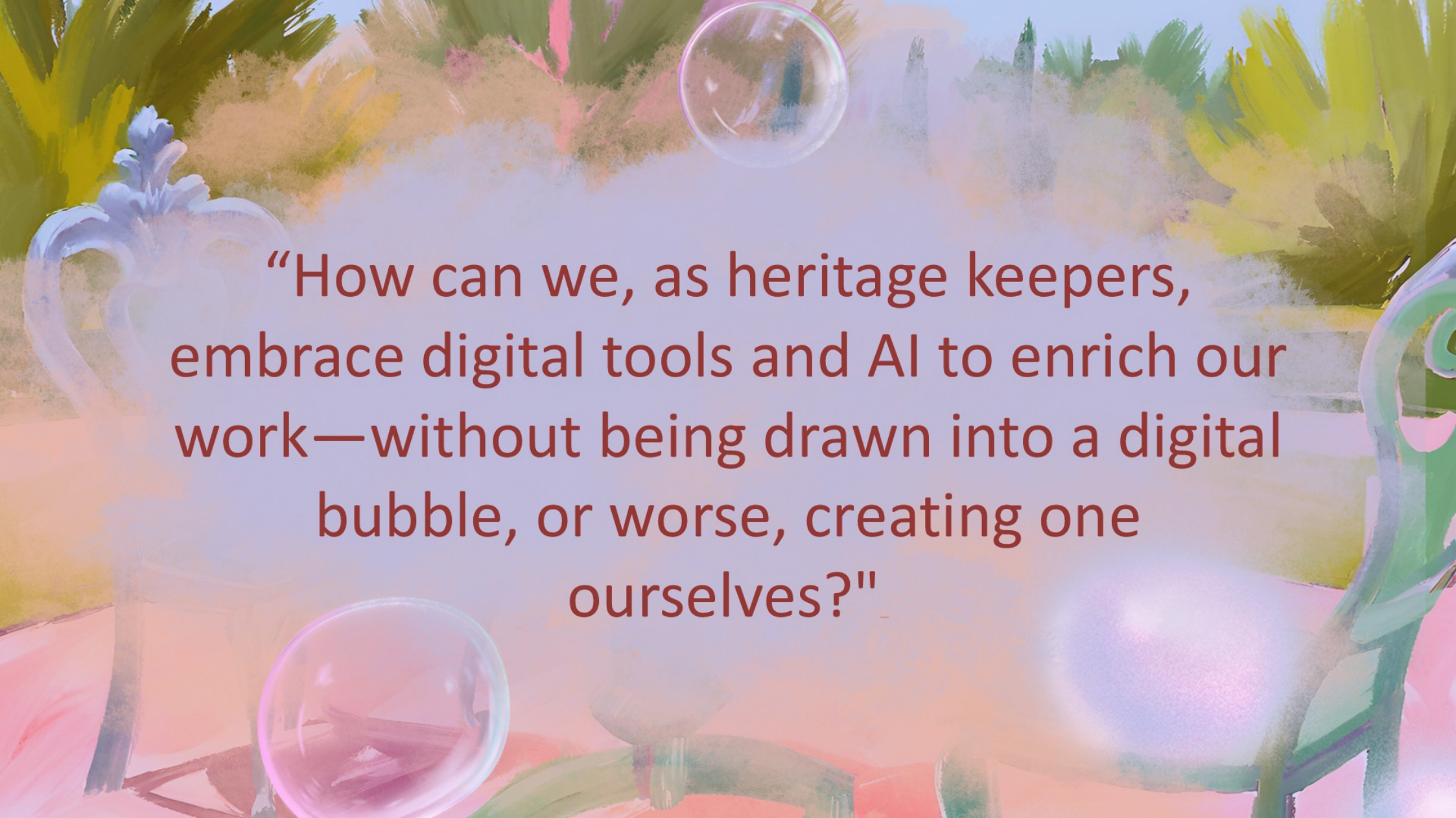
Overcoming it:

To break free from a digital bubble, one can actively seek out diverse perspectives, challenge their own assumptions, and engage in conversations with people who hold different viewpoints.


The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of thick, expressive brushstrokes in shades of green, yellow, orange, red, and purple. Several translucent, multi-colored bubbles are scattered across the scene, some overlapping the brushstrokes. The overall effect is dynamic and artistic.

Digital Bubble:

-
- Less Personal Experiences
 - Lost of Information
 - Lost of human connection



“How can we, as heritage keepers,
embrace digital tools and AI to enrich our
work—without being drawn into a digital
bubble, or worse, creating one
ourselves?”

The background is a vibrant, painterly illustration. It depicts a path or garden scene with various trees and foliage in shades of green, yellow, and orange. A large, translucent bubble with a purple and pink rim is positioned in the upper center. The overall style is soft and artistic, with visible brushstrokes and a warm, pastel color palette.

"Giving time-tested methods a fresh coat for today's innovations."

"By the involvements of our communities and individuals"

★18
MAART 2023

FESTIVIDAD NACIONAL HIMNO Y BANDERA EXPO: **DIASPORA ARUBIANO**

UN PASADO Y FUTURO COMPARTI

10AM - 6PM

ARCHIVO NACIONAL ARUBA



ROBERT MADURO
Y AZUCUAR

BAILE DI SINTA

KIDS CORNER

DINO JUMP

BAR Y CUSHINA
BON SURTI



INVITACION

"Futuro no ta warda"

retonan · opcion · solucion

27 September 2019

Renaissance Convention Center

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Awg. 125,- p.p. (incl. lunch)

Oradornan di Hulanda:

Marino Engelhard
Rijkswaars & Directeur Nationaal Archief

Migje Victorienberg
Adviseur Digitale Informatievoorziening Waterlands Archief
Kennisplatform Informatiewaardhouding Overheden

Paul Geenders
Consultant PG, Consultancy
Docent GO-Opleidingen

Eric Kokke
Marketing Manager
Docent GO-Opleidingen

Oradornan di Aruba:

Raymond Hernandez
Director Archivo Nacional Aruba

Aruba Bank
Arthur Troms
Nigel Wic

Aruba Rijksart Authority
Sherry Tromp

ITP Caribbean International
Paula Zijlstra



Fundacion Emigranten
di Arubia

Fundacion.ada@gmail.com

567.6118

Emigranten di Arubia





Best memories!





“

Human connection
still matter and how to
keep this?



”

“

Engaging the Community: From Passive Memory to Active Citizenship

- **Participatory archiving:** Let descendants contribute to documenting their own stories. Oral history projects can be a powerful tool.
- **Crowdsourcing family stories:** Launch projects inviting people to share photos, stories, or objects for instance related to slavery or colonial history.
- **Working groups or advisory boards of descendants:** Involve the community in shaping programs, so they become co-owners of the narrative.

”

“

Let the community
and the individual be
part of the archives →

COMMUNITY
ARCHIVING

”



**A PICTURE IS WORTH
A THOUSAND
WORDS**



4

Conclusion



Thank You!

Any questions?

You can find us at:

raymond.hernandez@aruba.gov.aw

shakira.croes@aruba.gov.aw

www.coleccion.aw

www.ana.aw